Urban Renewal Mission (JNNURM), Public Private Partnership (PPP) are being encouraged for treatment of garbage in certain metro cities while approving the Solid Waste Management projects under JNNURM, State Government/Urban Local Bodies (ULBs) are advised to involve PPP in Solid Waste Management activities and its further operation and maintenance under JNNURM.

(b) and (c) There is no specific scheme with regard to emoluments and health care of people engaged in the work of garbage collection. However, the 'Rashtriya Swasthya Bima Yojana' for BPL families in Unorganised Sector has been launched on 1st October, 2007. The Below Poverty Line unorganized sector worker and his family (a unit of five) will be covered under the scheme. The total sum insured would be Rs. 30,000/- per family per annum on a family floater basis. The benefits will start accruing from 1st April, 2008.

Freedom to States for flexible labour policy

1347. SHRI KANJIBHAI PATEL: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Gujarat has proposed an Industrial Park Ordinance with flexible labour policy;

(b) if so, the progress made in this regard; and

(c) whether Government is considering to give freedom to the State Government in adopting flexible labour policy when the State Governments so desire?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES): (a) and (b) The Government of Gujarat had sent draft Gujarat Industrial Park Ordinance, 2003 for obtaining the approval of the Central Government.

The proposal was examined and it was observed that the amendments proposed may not safeguard the interest of the workers. Therefore, the Government of Gujarat had been advised to reformulate its views and submit a revised proposal after due consultation with the Central Trade Unions.

(c) Labour Laws are enacted by the Government to protect the interests of workers. The proposals from the State Governments related to labour issues are examined on case to case basis.

Fall in employment rate

1348. MS. SUSHILA TIRIYA: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that employment rate has fallen in the recent years;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken to increase the employment exchanges?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES): (a) Reliable estimates of employment and unemployment are obtained through quinquennial labour force surveys conducted by National Sample Survey Organisation. Last such survey was conducted during 2004-05. As per two most recent